

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/067,775

Examiner

Man Phan

Applicant(s)

YAZAKI ET AL.

Art Unit

2665

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the communications filed 02/08/2002.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-15.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date 2/8/02
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____.
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.

Reasons for allowance

1. The application of Yazaki et al. for the "Packet transfer apparatus with the function of flow detection and flow management method" filed 02/08/2002 has been examined. This application claims foreign priority based on the applications 2001-200438 dated 07/02/2001 filed in Japan.
2. Claims 1-15 are allowable.
3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The instant application is deemed to be directed to a no obvious improvement over the prior art of record. The improvement comprises: a flow detector for identifying a flow to which an input packet belongs from header information of the input packet and outputting a flow bundle identifier peculiar to the identified flow or a flow bundle identifier common to the identified flow and at least another flow; and a controller having an information table including a plurality of information entries corresponding to the flow bundle identifier, for reading out one of the information entries from the information table on the basis of the flow bundle identifier received from the flow detector and performing a predetermined computing process, as expressly recited in the claims.
4. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue

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fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

5. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

The Yazaki et al. (US#6,768,738) is cited to show the packet forwarding apparatus with a flow detection table.

The Yazaki et al. (US#2003/0043802) is cited to show the packet transferring method and apparatus that employs the same.

The Yazaki et al. (US#2003/0002438) is cited to show the packet forwarding apparatus with packet controlling functions.

The Yazaki et al. (US#2002/0093957) is cited to show packet communication system with QoS control function.

The Ikeda et al. (US#6,788,683) is cited to show flow identifying device, flow processing device, flow identifying method, and flow processing method.

The Takase et al. (US#5,809,012) is cited to show the connectionless communication system.

The Pei et al. (US#6,272,109) is cited to show the hierarchical schedules for different traffic.

The Brown et al. (US#6,279,035) is cited to show optimizing flow detection and reducing control plane processing in a multi-protocol over ATM system.

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6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Man U. Phan whose telephone number is (571) 272-3149. The examiner can normally be reached Monday through Friday from 6:00 am to 3:00 pm.

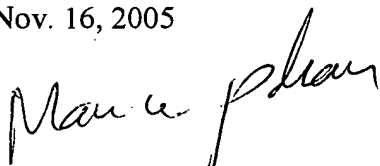
If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Huy Vu, can be reached on (571) 272-3155. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (571) 273-8300.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (571) 272-2600.

7. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have any questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at toll free 1-866-217-9197.

MPhan

Nov. 16, 2005



MAN U. PHAN
PRIMARY EXAMINER